

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 5-10 are pending. By this Response, claims 1, and 2 are amended and claims 3, 4 and 11 are cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above-amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 2 through 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the limitation "overlapping mechanism" in claim 2 lacks sufficient antecedent basis. By this Response, claim 2 has been amended to remove the limitation "the overlapping mechanism." Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2, as amended, now satisfies the requirements under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shimamura, et al. (US Patent No. 5,721,586) and claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimamura in view of Wasada (JP 11-101931A). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Shimamura teaches a television prompter that includes support arm (16) which includes swing arms 16A and 16B that support the prompter, a display unit (22) and a half mirror attachment. The swing arms 16A and 16B are slidable such that they can be positioned adjacent to each other. In the Office Action it is stated that the first support stage is interpreted to be the holder frame 20 and the second support stage is interpreted to be the support plate 34. As illustrated in Fig. 5, the mirror 35 is positioned below the holder frame 20 and support plate 34. Also, the support plate 34 is attached to the display unit 22 and not to the camera.

Claim 1 recites, "the display and the semitransparent mirror being supported by the first support member, the display being provided under the first support member and the semitransparent mirror being provided above the first support member, wherein the TV camera is supported by the second support member, the second support member being detachably connected to a TV camera platform." As noted above, Shimamura's system teaches contrary to the claimed features. Specifically, Shimamura teaches a mirror being provided below the holder frame 20 which is alleged to disclose the first support member instead of above the first support member as claimed. Also, the second support member is attached to the display device 22 and does not support a camera and is not detachably connected to a TV camera platform as claimed.

Therefore, in view of the above, Shimamura fails to teach each and every feature of independent claim 1 as required.

Further, Wasada fails to make up for the deficiencies of Shimamura. The Office Action alleges that Wasada teaches a support member (26) that is mounted on the bottom of a camera in accordance with applicants claims. Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, it is noted that Wasada fails to teach or suggest a display and a semitransparent mirror being supported by the first support member, the display being provided under the first support member and the semitransparent mirror being provided above the first support member as recited in claim 1, which as argued above, is not taught by Shimamura. Therefore, the combination of Shimamura and Wasada fail to teach each and every feature of the claimed invention. Therefore, for this reason alone, a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Shimamura, Wasada's teachings cannot be established.

Secondly, regarding the support member, one of ordinary skill would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Wasada with that of Shimamura. Wasada's support member 26 is provided underneath the camera and also the prompter main body 12. Thus, the support member 26 supports both the camera and the prompter main body. However, Shimamura teaches a support arm 16 which is attached to the top portion of the camera that supports the prompter main body. Therefore, one of ordinary skill would not be motivated to

include the support member 26 of Wasada with the teachings of Shimamura since this would provide a second support member or the prompter which is unnecessary and includes added costs, weight and size to the apparatus.

Therefore, in view of the above, applicant respectfully submits that Shimamura fails to teach each and every feature of claim 1 as required under 35 U.S.C. §102. Further, the combination of Shimamura and Wasada fail to teach each and every feature of the claimed invention and one of ordinary skill would not be motivated to combine those teachings and therefore fail to satisfy the requirements under 35 U.S.C. §103. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully that claims 1 and 2 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

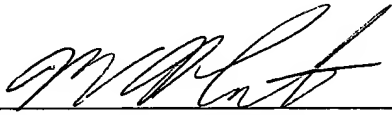
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

Appl. No. 09/671,449

02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17;
particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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